

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. J. RES. 35

Granting the consent of Congress to the Pacific Northwest Emergency
Management Arrangement.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 21, 1997

Mr. CRAIG (for himself, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mr. KEMPTHORNE,
Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. GORTON) introduced the following joint resolution;
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

JOINT RESOLUTION

Granting the consent of Congress to the Pacific Northwest
Emergency Management Arrangement.

1 *Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives*
2 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. CONGRESSIONAL CONSENT.**

4 Congress consents to the Pacific Northwest Emer-
5 gency Management Arrangement entered into between the
6 States of Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington, and the
7 Province of British Columbia and the Yukon Territory.
8 The arrangement is substantially as follows:

1 “PACIFIC NORTHWEST EMERGENCY
2 MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENT

3 “Whereas, Pacific Northwest emergency management
4 arrangement between the government of the States of
5 Alaska, the government of the State of Idaho, the gov-
6 ernment of the State of Oregon, the government of
7 the State of Washington, the government of the State
8 of the Providence of British Columbia, and the gov-
9 ernment of Yukon Territory hereinafter referred to
10 collectively as the ‘Signatories’ and separately as a
11 ‘Signatory’;

12 “Whereas, the Signatories recognize the importance
13 of comprehensive and coordinated civil emergency pre-
14 paredness, response and recovery measures for natu-
15 ral and technological emergencies or disasters, and for
16 declared or undeclared hostilities including enemy at-
17 tack;

18 “Whereas, the Signatories further recognize the bene-
19 fits of coordinating their separate emergency pre-
20 paredness, response and recovery measures with that
21 of contiguous jurisdictions for those emergencies, dis-
22 asters, or hostilities affecting or potentially affecting
23 any one or more of the Signatories in the Pacific
24 Northwest; and

1 “Whereas, the Signatories further recognize that re-
 2 gionally based emergency preparedness, response and
 3 recovery measures will benefit all jurisdictions within
 4 the Pacific Northwest, and best serve their respective
 5 national interests in cooperative and coordinated
 6 emergency preparedness as facilitated by the Consult-
 7 ative Group on Comprehensive Civil Emergency and
 8 Management established in the Agreement Between
 9 the government of the United States of America and
 10 the government of Canada on Cooperation and Com-
 11 prehensive Civil Emergency Planning and Manage-
 12 ment signed at Ottawa, Ontario, Canada on April 28,
 13 1986: Now, therefore, be it is hereby agreed by and
 14 between each and all of the Signatories hereto as fol-
 15 lows:

16 “ADVISORY COMMITTEE

17 “(1) An advisory committee named the Western Re-
 18 gional Emergency Management Advisory Committee (W-
 19 REMAC) shall be established which will include one mem-
 20 ber appointed by each Signatory.

21 “(2) The W-REMAC will be guided by the agreed-
 22 upon Terms of Reference-Annex A.

23 “PRINCIPLES OF COOPERATION

24 “(3) Subject to the laws of each Signatory, the follow-
 25 ing cooperative principles are to be used as a guide by

1 the Signatories in civil emergency matters which may af-
2 fect more than one Signatory:

3 “(A) The authorities of each Signatory may
4 seek the advice, cooperation, or assistance of any
5 other Signatory in any civil emergency matter.

6 “(B) Nothing in the arrangement shall derogate
7 from the applicable laws within the jurisdiction of
8 any Signatory. However, the authorities of any Sig-
9 natory may request from the authorities of any other
10 signatory appropriate alleviation of such laws if their
11 normal application might lead to delay or difficulty
12 in the rapid execution of necessary civil emergency
13 measures.

14 “(C) Each Signatory will use its best efforts to
15 facilitate the movement of evacuees, refugees, civil
16 emergency personnel, equipment or other resources
17 into or across its territory, or to a designated stag-
18 ing area when it is agreed that such movement or
19 staging will facilitate civil emergency operations by
20 the affected or participating Signatories.

21 “(D) In times of emergency, each Signatory will
22 use its best efforts to ensure that the citizens or
23 residents of any other Signatory present in its terri-
24 tory are provided emergency health services and

1 emergency social services in a manner no less favor-
2 able than that provided to its own citizens.

3 “(E) Each Signatory will use discretionary
4 power as far as possible to avoid levy of any tax, tar-
5 iff, business license, or user fees on the services,
6 equipment, and supplies of any other Signatory
7 which is engaged in civil emergency activities in the
8 territory of another Signatory, and will use its best
9 efforts to encourage local governments or other ju-
10 risdictions within its territory to do likewise.

11 “(F) When civil emergency personnel, con-
12 tracted firms or personnel, vehicles, equipment, or
13 other services from any Signatory are made available
14 to or are employed to assist any other Signatory, all
15 providing Signatories will use best efforts to ensure
16 that charges, levies, or costs for such use or assist-
17 ance will not exceed those paid for similar use of
18 such resources within their own territory.

19 “(G) Each Signatory will exchange contact lists,
20 warning and notification plans, and selected emer-
21 gency plans and will call to the attention of their re-
22 spective local governments and other jurisdictional
23 authorities in areas adjacent to intersignatory
24 boundaries, the desirability of compatibility of civil
25 emergency plans and the exchange of contact lists,

1 warning and notification plans, and selected emer-
2 gency plans.

3 “(H) The authority of any Signatory conduct-
4 ing an exercise will ensure that all other signatories
5 are provided an opportunity to observe, and/or par-
6 ticipate in such exercises.

7 “COMPREHENSIVE NATURE

8 “(4) This document is a comprehensive arrangement
9 on civil emergency planning and management. To this end
10 and from time to time as necessary, all Signatories shall—

11 “(A) review and exchange their respective con-
12 tact lists, warning and notification plans, and se-
13 lected emergency plans; and

14 “(B) as appropriate, provide such plans and
15 procedures to local governments, and other emer-
16 gency agencies within their respective territories.

17 “ARRANGEMENT NOT EXCLUSIVE

18 “(5) This is not an exclusive arrangement and shall
19 not prevent or limit other civil emergency arrangements
20 of any nature between Signatories to this arrangement.
21 In the event of any conflicts between the provisions of this
22 arrangement and any other arrangement regarding emer-
23 gency service entered into by two or more States of the
24 United States who are Signatories to this arrangement,
25 the provisions of that other arrangement shall apply, with

1 respect to the obligations of those States to each other,
 2 and not the conflicting provisions of this arrangement.

3 “AMENDMENTS

4 “(6) This Arrangement and the Annex may be
 5 amended (and additional Annexes may be added) by ar-
 6 rangement of the Signatories.

7 “CANCELLATION OR SUBSTITUTION

8 “(7) Any Signatory to this Arrangement may with-
 9 draw from or cancel their participation in this Arrange-
 10 ment by giving sixty days, written notice in advance of
 11 this effective date to all other Signatories.

12 “AUTHORITY

13 “(8) All Signatories to this Arrangement warrant
 14 they have the power and capacity to accept, execute, and
 15 deliver this Arrangement.

16 “EFFECTIVE DATE

17 “(9) Notwithstanding any dates noted elsewhere, this
 18 Arrangement shall commence April 1, 1996.”.

19 **SEC. 2. INCONSISTENCY OF LANGUAGE.**

20 The validity of the arrangements consented to by this
 21 Act shall not be affected by any insubstantial difference
 22 in their form or language as adopted by the States and
 23 provinces.

1 **SEC. 3. RIGHT TO ALTER, AMEND, OR REPEAL.**

2 The right to alter, amend, or repeal this Act is hereby
3 expressly reserved.

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